

Artful Living

Color Comes to Life in LAZURE Painting

by Charles Andrade

Color in Nature surrounds us in our everyday experience. Nature's colors are rarely flat and monotonous, but living and vibrant. Here in the Roaring Fork Valley, we're luckier than most to have an especially broad and expansive vista of color and light to breathe in. We don't have to go chasing the rainbow.

Chasing color in our home, on the other hand, can still be an exhausting effort if we don't know where to begin. We all understand on an instinctive level that color sets emotional tone and ambient mood; yet most of us still paint our walls in

white, beige or taupe! Many homes entirely miss out on the powerful benefits of color as the primary tool in design and/or renovation. Color can be used in our homes to reflect the luminous, translucent quality found both in Nature and our own inner life.

Interior design, architecture and psychology meet in a harmonious way in an innovative style of interior painting known as Lazure.

Lazured walls produce light saturated color similar to what is seen in nature when one looks out over land or sea through sunlit atmosphere.

This award-winning finish has

been known in Europe for decades and is increasingly making an appearance here in the United States, recognized for the subtle, healing, and regenerative qualities it brings to any interior space.

As well as producing aesthetically pleasing results, the breath-taking quality of Lazure make walls disappear, replaced by soul-nurturing colors that can help relieve the stress of a busy life style.

The technique while generally executed using a latex/acrylic base can also be done in an aromatic organic process utilizing fragrant beeswax binder for the glaze and milk casein white paint for the base coat for people with toxicity sensitivities.

Lazure painting is more than just a

decorative paint technique but offers a whole new way of looking at and experiencing color. Lazure is based on color theory that understands the psychological and spiritual effect that Light and Color have on human beings.

Charles Andrade currently lives in the Roaring Fork Valley where he operates Lazure Custom Wall Designs a decorative, faux and mural painting business.

He teaches fine art classes and Lazure workshops throughout North America and Canada. He can be reached for color consultations at 970.948.8056. Examples of Lazure work can be see at www.lazure.com

Color is the nature and nourishment of the human soul.

COVER ARTIST

We recently spoke to Christie Interlante about her vibrant painting, '...makes the world', which graces our March cover.

"Being human in a western culture is a condition of overload. Information tears around the world at the speed of light. Rushing, doing, always going somewhere - often it's all about making money. The title of this diptych "...makes the world" is a play on the song from the musical, Cabaret. Once, circumnavigating the globe in 80 days was considered a speedy trip.

"The map is made up of pieces of money from many world currencies as well as bits of musical scores, stencils, dots and layer upon layer of oil glazes.

Christie's technique is to work on many pieces at once, letting them evolve in their own time. She is interested in exploring relationships: the juxtaposition of color to color, art to money, fame and culture, simplicity and excess all within the context of art history. Many of her pieces include familiar images from other artists.

"I like to challenge the notion of originality,". Christie's first 'serious' painting she can remember making, was at age fifteen. It included the Botticelli Venus, and Roy Rogers.

Many musicians 'sample' elements from a variety of other sources including taking a direct riff from another song. Christie's work could be thought of as visual rap with samples being taken from ancient to contemporary culture as well as personal iconography. Mimicking



layers of consciousness, there may be 'primitive' elements lurking under or over very familiar appropriated images from classical art.

She goes on to say, "My work, now more than ever, reflects the layers of external as well as internal experience that is my past, present and probably even my future.

The paintings are lively, colorful and intricate. The famous images are surrounded by references to world art from aboriginal dot paintings to exotic gilt fabrics to Warhol, revealing Interlante's background as a precise decorative artist, textile designer and cultural tourist.

Christie left Aspen to see the world. Many moons later she's back in Aspen, focusing on her unique paintings that bring all the richness of world travel to them. Her studio is #110 at the Red Brick Center for the Arts.

For information regarding studio visits or purchase of the March cover painting, please call 925-2547 or email: cainterlante@comcast.net.

Interlante's work is included at the at Aspen Chapel Gallery - OCULUS- The Art of Seeing.

March 9 thru May 15. Opening Reception March 9, at 5-7PM.



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